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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RECORD NUMBER OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS THRIVING IN WEST LAFAYETTE

West Lafayette, Ind. – June 6, 2006 – The City of West Lafayette now has 13 active neighborhood associations—a record number, reports West Lafayette mayor Jan Mills. Their summer calendars include yard sales, picnics, backyard gatherings, bike rides and golf outings.

"These associations provide neighbor-to-neighbor contacts and social events that help residents feel connected and at home here," Mills said. "They're vital to a thriving community. During Home Ownership Month, celebrated each June, West Lafayette salutes these groups who do so much to make our neighborhoods great and to promote home ownership."

Patsy Hoyer, volunteer coordinator of the West Lafayette Neighborhood Coalition, helps new organizations form and assists existing groups. "Neighborhoods are the people-side of living here," she says. She's now helping a 14th group form.

The associations include Amberleigh Village, Avondale, Barberry Heights, Blackbird Farms, Glenwood Heights, Happy Hollow, Hills and Dales, New Chauncey, Northwestern Heights, Park Ridge, Plaza Park, University Farm and Wabash Shores.

For more information, visit the city's website, www.city.west-lafayette.in.us, where event and contact information for each group is listed, or call the mayor's office, 775-5100, for a copy of the city's new neighborhood association brochure.

(more)

Story ideas and contacts:

Historic neighborhoods

Two neighborhoods are listed on the National Registry of Historic Places:

- **New Chauncey** (Carl Griffin, 743-8087), with 600 homes built from the 1900s to the 1940s
- **Hills and Dales** (Ronda Walsh Schwab, 497-1281), with 280 homes, most built from 1924 to 1943.

Multi-cultured neighbors

“We’re a family-oriented neighborhood that embraces our multicultural environment,” says Michelle Scott (463-9794), a resident in the 178-home **Amberleigh Village** association area that includes neighbors from around the world.

Beautifying the Neighborhood

Some groups gather for neighborhood-wide beautification projects, such as:

- **Blackbird Farms** (Paulette Schwartzel, 497-2644), May cleanup and entry garden
- **New Chauncey**, daylily beds (Carl Griffin, 743-8087)
- **Northwestern Heights** (Persis Newman, 496-3583). which installed decorate street banners.

June 10 Neighborhood Sales

Two neighborhoods will host garage and yard sales on **Saturday, June 10:**

- **Plaza Park** (Chris Campbell, 463-1354)
- **Wabash Shores** (Mike French, 497-8922 or Sonya Margerum, 463-5730).

4th of July Extravaganza

Freedom rings in the **Avondale Neighborhood** (Patsy Hoyer, 497-0103) with a breakfast, parade and picnic in an old-fashioned, day-long family event with a long tradition.

Summer Gatherings

Carry-ins and get-togethers fill the calendar:

- **Barbarry Heights:** Picnic, **Sunday, June 11**, 3 p.m., Lommel Park (Rita Rud, 463-4810, or Daniel Yeoman, 497-2644)
- **Glenwood Heights:** Summer backyard gathering (Sandy Shoemaker, 463-1137, or Kathy Heckaman, 463-1321)
- **Park Ridge:** Summer bicycle-riding group and golf outing (John Whelan, 497-4872).

End-of-Summer Fun

- **Happy Hollow:** Fall picnic (Felice Bray, 463-7116)
- **Northwestern Heights:** Potluck, Monday, September 4 (Persis Newman, 496-3583).
- **University Farm:** August Ice cream social (Mary Kate McKenna, 464-1688).